

April 18, 2011
8:30 A.M.
Newport, Oregon

The Business License/Room Tax Review Task Force for the City of Newport met on the above date in Conference Room A of the Newport City Hall. In attendance were Rob Oberbillig, Art Moore, Steve Beck, Lee Hardy, Mike Schulz, Patti Cauduro, Tracy Wiley, Mark McConnell, Patricia Patrick-Joling and Lon Brusselback.

Staff present was City Manager Voetberg, City Recorder Hawker, and Finance Director David Marshall.

BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE COMMENTS

Peggy Sabanskas stated that the business license ordinance, as revised, would cause her to go out of business, as individual vendors at the antique mall are unable to buy a separate business license, rather than operate under her umbrella license.

Kathy Cleary stated that the business license ordinance, as revised, would put the art community out of business if every artist had to purchase an individual business license.

Beck noted that the Task Force had developed the current definition of business to eliminate gray areas and to make the ordinance easy to enforce and fair and equitable to the overall business community.

Sabanskas stated that there should be a multiple license rate included in the ordinance.

It was suggested that the multiple license issue be revisited.

INTRODUCTION TO TRANSIENT ROOM TAX ORDINANCE

The Task Force discussed the purpose of the transient room tax ordinance. It was agreed that it should be similar to the purpose of the business license ordinance but include "to support municipal purposes and offset services provided to visitors of Newport and allow for marketing of the city." It was agreed that this would be refined and returned to the Task Force for review.

The Task Force discussed definitions. Voetberg agreed to check the definition of "hotel" in the ORS. Changes were suggested to "monthly rental plan," "occupant," "person," and other definitions. Hawker agreed to insert the recommended changes and send a draft to the Task Force. It was suggested that, if possible,

replace references to “hotel” with “transient lodging.” It was also asked whether the tax could be set by resolution as opposed to being included in this ordinance.

ESTABLISH NEXT AGENDA

It was agreed to continue the discussion of the transient room tax ordinance beginning with 3.05.040. The discussion will include the definitions, review of changes to date, and further review of the ordinance.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:47 A.M.